

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the correction of the abstract according to MPEP § 608.01(b) is requested. The corrected abstract is attached herewith to overcome this objection.

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 4-8 and 13-17 and the abstract have been amended.

In the Office Action, claims 4-17 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c). The claims 4-8 and 13-17 have been amended as follows to overcome this objection under 37 CFR 1.75(c):

Claims 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17 now depend on claim 1 only.

Claims 6 to 8 and 16 now depend on claim 5 only.

Claims 9 to 12 have not been amended.

Claim 13 now depends only on claim 8.

Rejection under 35 USC 102 (b)

GB-A-2,236,716 discloses means to move mooring booms to which vessels are moored in a marina, the mooring booms being driven together or apart by a variety of power sources (see claim 1 and Figure 3a).

The power source is a motor driving a pinion/rack gear arrangement, the pinion being disposed at the end of a pontoon and the rack gear on a main pontoon (see claim 4 and Figure 3a).

According to claim 1 of the above-referenced US patent application, the object of the present invention is an arrangement of motorised floating mobile systems for moving mooring booms.

The system described in claim 1 comprises a plurality of motorised floating mobile systems, being disposed following a regular pattern, several systems being provided along the mooring booms, as can be seen from Figure 1.

GB-A-2,236,716 does not disclose such an arrangement of floating mobile systems, and in particular does not disclose means arranged on the two ends of each system, enabling each said system to be attached to an identical system (claim 1).

GB-A-2,236,716 does not disclose either an arrangement of floating mobile systems positioned following a regular grid pattern, as disclosed in claim 1 of the present application.

GB-A-2,236,716 does not disclose means for synchronously controlling the manoeuvring of boats or vessels.

It is therefore believed that the claimed invention is not anticipated by GB-A-2,236,716 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 1-17, as amended, be allowed.

With this amendment, all of the pending amended claims are believed to define patentable subject matter. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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